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Climates of risk: A field analysis of global climate change in US media discourse, 1997-2004

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Abstract:

How are industry and environmentalist discourses of climate risk related to dominant scientific and political discourses? This study operationalizes Bourdieu's concept of symbolic capital in order to map dimensions of risk description and prescription onto a journalistic field of industry, environmentalist, scientific, and political media. Results show that conventional definitions of risk mirror an opposition between scientific and political discourses. Prescriptions for action on risk are partly autonomous from definitions however. Environmentalist and scientific media feature more proactive discourse, and industry and political media feature more reactive discourse. Implications for future research on climate risk and relational studies of media discourse are discussed.

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Resource Description

Communication: M

resource focus on research or methods on how to communicate or frame issues on climate change; surveys of attitudes, knowledge, beliefs about climate change

A focus of content

Communication Audience: M

audience to whom the resource is directed

Public

Exposure: M

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Unspecified Exposure

Geographic Feature: M

resource focuses on specific type of geography

None or Unspecified

Geographic Location: M

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resource focuses on specific location

Global or Unspecified

Health Impact: **☑**

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Health Outcome Unspecified

Mitigation/Adaptation: **☑**

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation

Resource Type: **☑**

format or standard characteristic of resource

Research Article

Timescale: **™**

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified